

① 4
27. (Amended) The heat exchanging fin according to claim 21, wherein an entire outer perimeter of each of said plurality of flares is a curvilinear surface and is located at a spaced distance from an outer perimeter of each of said plurality of collars.

② 5
Cont
29. (Amended) The heat exchanging fin according to claim 21, wherein an outer perimeter of each of said plurality of flares is in the general shape of an ellipse.

REMARKS

Claims 2-6, 8-10 and 21-31 are now present in the instant application. Claims 2, 3, 5, 6, 9, 10, 21, 23, 27 and 29 have been amended. Claim 21 is independent. Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Interview Summary

An interview was conducted with the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application on April 12, 2001. Applicants greatly appreciate the courtesy shown by the Examiner during the interview.

In the interview with the Examiner, amendments to the claims were discussed to address the Examiner's various rejections. Specifically, it was proposed to amend independent claim 21 to recite that the plurality of connecting sections be formed into a straight line or a curved line expanded outwardly "with respect to an axis of the collar." In addition, amendments to several of the dependent claims were proposed to clearly define the present invention over the Dinh reference relied upon by the Examiner.

The above amendments to the claims incorporate the amendments discussed during the interview.

Favorable consideration and allowance of the above-identified application is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

If the Examiner has any questions concerning this application, the Examiner is requested to contact Paul C. Lewis, Registration No. 43,368 at (703) 205-8000 in the Washington, D.C. area.

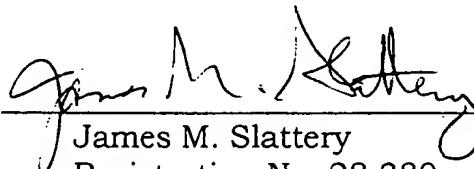
If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit

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Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosure: Marked Up Version of Claim Amendments

MARKED UP VERSION OF CLAIM AMENDMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

2. (Twice Amended) The heat exchanging fin according to claim 21, wherein an entire outer [edge] perimeter of each of said plurality of flares is in the shape of a polygon.
3. (Twice Amended) The heat exchanging fin according to claim 2, wherein an entire outer [edge] perimeter of each of said plurality of flares is in the shape of a triangle or a tetragon.
5. (Twice Amended) The heat exchanging fin according to claim 4, wherein an entire outer [edge] perimeter of each of said plurality of flares is in the shape of a polygon.
6. (Twice Amended) The heat exchanging fin according to claim 5, wherein an entire outer [edge] perimeter of each of said plurality of flares is in the shape of a regular triangle or a regular tetragon.

9. (Twice Amended) The heat exchanging fin according to claim 8, wherein an entire outer [edge] perimeter of each of said plurality of flares is in the shape of a regular polygon.

10. (Twice Amended) The heat exchanging fin according to claim 9, wherein [the] said entire outer [edge]perimeter of each of said plurality of flares is in the shape of a regular triangle or a regular tetragon.

21. (Twice Amended) A heat exchanging fin, comprising:
a metallic plate section having a plurality of tube holes formed therein;
a plurality of collars, each of said plurality of collars extending from a respective edge of each of said plurality of tube holes; and
a plurality of flares, each of said plurality of flares being formed at a respective front end of each of said plurality of collars, each of said plurality of flares including:
a plurality of radially extended sections radially extending outwardly from the respective front end of each of said plurality of collars, each of said plurality of radially extended sections having a prescribed height from a surface of said metallic plate section; and

a plurality of connecting sections each of which connects said adjacent radially extended sections, an outer edge of each of said plurality of connecting sections being formed into a straight line or a curved line expanded outwardly with respect to an axis of the collar.

23. (Amended) The heat exchanging fin according to claim 21, wherein said plurality of radially extended sections and said plurality of connecting sections together form an outer [edge] perimeter of a respective of said plurality of flares, and an entirety of said outer [edge] perimeter is in the general shape of a triangle or tetragon.

27. (Amended) The heat exchanging fin according to claim 21, wherein an entire outer [surface] perimeter of each of said plurality of flares is a curvilinear surface and is located at a spaced distance from an outer [surface] perimeter of each of said plurality of collars.

29. (Amended) The heat exchanging fin according to claim 21, wherein an outer [edge] perimeter of each of said plurality of flares is in the general shape of an ellipse.